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INCOMING
TELEGRAM

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ACTION EURE-12

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MOSCOW 06405 151645Z

INFO OC' 1 NEA-06 ISO-00 SMS-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
M-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 SY-05 SYE-00 MCT-02
HA-05 10-14 ACDA-12 /095 W

AS TELLING ANDRONOV IN A PHONE CONVERSATION THAT HE
HAD MET WITH NEZRI AND LISTENED TO HIM WITH "GREAT
INTEREST". LORTON IS ALSO QUOTED AS SAYING "WE DO NOT
PROVIDE ANSWERS TO SUCH QUESTIONS" WHEN ASKED IF HE
DISCUSSED ARMS SUPPLIES WITH NEZRI. TOON

0 151636Z MAR 79
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3842
INFO AMCONSUL Leningrad
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY KABUL
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
FBIS WASHDC

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ATTN: FBIS. PLEASE FILE LATERALLY

E.O. 12065: N/A
TAGS: AF, US, UR, PEPR

SUBJECT: SOVIET PRESS ARTICLE ON AMBASSADOR DUBS'
DEATH

1. MARCH 14 EDITION OF WEEKLY NEWSPAPER, "LITERATUR-
NAYA GAZETA," CARRIED SCURRILOUS ARTICLE AUTHORED BY
LIT GAZ SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT IN NEW YORK, IONA
ANDRONOV. ARTICLE FOLLOWS DRA LINE IN BRANDING THE
AMBASSADOR'S MURDERERS AS ANTI-DRA MUSLIM FANATICS.
IT CITES A "NEWSWEEK" REPORT THAT "MUSLIM INSURGENTS"
TARGETTED AMBASSADOR DUBS IN ORDER TO ATTRACT MAXIMUM
PUBLICITY TO THEIR CAUSE. ANDRONOV IMPLIES US
NEGLECTANCE IN CLAIMING THAT AMBASSADOR DUBS TURNED
DOWN A DRA MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS REQUEST TO
ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR HIS PERSONAL SECURITY. AS
A RESULT, HE MAINTAINS, THERE WERE NO GUARDS PRESENT
WHEN THE AMBASSADOR WAS SEIZED. ANDRONOV REPEATS THE
DRA VERSION OF THE FINAL MINUTES OF AMBASSADOR DUBS'
LIFE, STATING THAT A GUNSHOT FROM INSIDE THE HOTEL
ROOM PRECEDED THE ATTEMPT TO OVERPOWER THE KIDNAPPERS.
DURING THE ATTACK, HE CONTENTS, THE KIDNAPPERS KILLED
AMBASSADOR DUBS AND DIED THEMSELVES.

2. MAJOR PART OF ARTICLE APPEARS AIMED AT DEPICTING
THE ANTI-DRA INSURGENTS ALLEGEDLY BEHIND AMBASSADOR
DUBS' DEATH AS ACTIVELY SEEKING US ASSISTANCE IN
RESTORING THE MONARCHY. IN THIS CONNECTION, ANDRONOV
WRITES THAT:

-- DURING THE KIDNAPPING, "NEWSWEEK" REPORTER RON MOREAU
"FOUND HIMSELF, AND BY NO MEANS NOT BY CHANCE" AT THE
ILLEGAL HIDEOUT OF THE TERRORISTS. BESIDES MOREAU,
OTHER US CORRESPONDENTS ALSO MET WITH AFGHAN INSURGENTS
OUTSIDE AFGHANISTAN.

-- ON MARCH 4, AN ENVOY OF THE ANTI-DRA INSURGENTS
(DESCRIBED AS "BASHACH GANGS") ARRIVED IN THE US AND
SUBSEQUENTLY MET WITH SENATORS CHURCH AND JAVITS.

-- ABDULLAH POPAL, AN AFGHAN DIPLOMAT AT THE AFGHAN
UN MISSION, IS CITED AS TELLING ANDRONOV THAT NEZRI
IS A "CRIMINAL" AND "ADVENTURIST" HIDING BEHIND AFGHAN
BORDERS, AND AMONG THOSE WHO ARE ATTEMPTING TO PROVOKE
AFGHAN-US DIFFERENCES, SUCH AS THROUGH THE MURDER OF
AMBASSADOR DUBS.

-- STATE DEPARTMENT AFGHAN DESK OFFICER LORTON IS QUOTED

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY MDC DATE 3.30.81

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TS AUTH. REASON (S)

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